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PATENT

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Date

Apr 10, 2002

Ayesha S. Wilks

10/B

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

S-4-02

Applicant : Vishnu K. Agarwal

Attorney Docket No.: 501082.02 (98-0616.01)

Serial No. : 09/652,994

Group Art Unit : 2815

Filed : August 31, 2000

Examiner : Jesse A. Fenty

Title : DEVICE AND METHOD FOR PROTECTING AGAINST OXIDATION OF A CONDUCTIVE LAYER IN SAID DEVICE

Box Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner of Patents
Washington, DC 20231

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AMENDMENT

Sir:

Please amend the above-captioned patent application as follows:

In the Claims:

Please amend claims 73-75 as follows:

73. (Amended) An in-process device, comprising:

a substrate; and

a conductive layer over the substrate, the conductive layer being exposed to a selection consisting of diborane, phosphine, methylsilane, hexamethyldisilane, hexamethyldisilazane, HCL, boron trichloride, and combinations thereof to reduce an ability of the conductive layer to associate with oxygen.

74. (Amended) The in-process device of claim 73, wherein the conductive layer comprises tungsten nitride.